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# MICHIGAN FARMER

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### Agricultural

#### DECLINE IN QUALITY OF CATTLE.

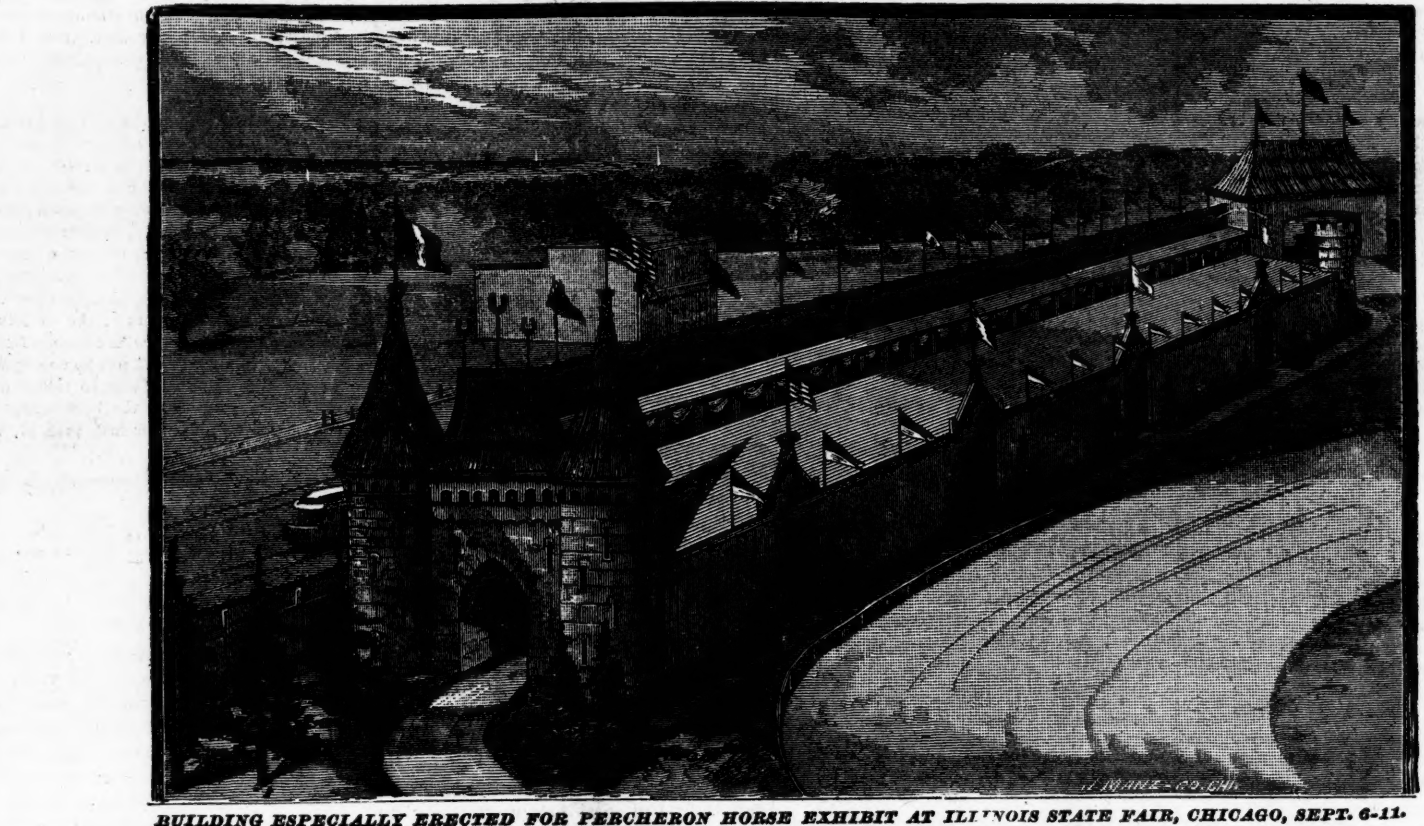
I have recently been making some observations, and have solicited expressions of opinion from farmers who have their eyes open and look with an unbiased judgment upon the question, pro and con, as to the standing of the cattle interest at present, compared with ten years, and back of that, and I ask readers of the FARMER to look about them, and see if there is not a decided decline in quality since the time mentioned. I do not refer to breeders, for they all keep some animals in show condition and are striving to improve the quality, especially if they can do so by the infusion of fashionable strains. The cattle I refer to are those we see in the fields in a journey of ten to twenty miles, and I have no doubt the same conditions and qualities prevail in all parts of the State, and in other states, for the causes are alike everywhere. The cattle of today are leggy and raw-boned, with no uniformity of color or shape. There are no blocky steers, nor large smooth heifers and cows. Butchers complain that grass fed animals do not cut up well, and that the beef is stringy and tough. A large majority of the steers put up for stall feeding make slow gains for the food consumed, and good cows are becoming scarcer every year. Ten years ago almost every farmer had an extra cow for milk and butter, which he took pride in, and instituted comparisons with the neighbors. Now every farmer is looking for a good cow, and has some poor ones to sell. His steers, which destroyed great expectations at their birth, because they were not heifers, are turned into the back lot, awaiting some Iowa or Kansas buyer, who is not critical, if only the animal is a steer. The boom in breeds is responsible for this decline. The reason of the change from natives and crossbred cattle of the Shorthorn type, is the inference drawn from published reports, that these new breeds when taken to the farms would transmit these excellent qualities to the stock on hand, and prove an accession to the qualities already well advanced toward perfection. In this, farmers have been sadly mistaken. Ayrshire blood soon loses identity, and their crosses run to legs and length of body, with no chest capacity, and the milking qualities are in no way superior to the average native. The late craze for butter breeds and milk breeds has brought nothing but disaster to the stock of the country. Had they been kept pure, there is a place for each. For the village merchant who wants a little very rich cream for family use, and has but little space for the animal, the Jersey is just what he has been looking after. The Holstein perhaps has a place where the milk product has a commercial value. Yet I doubt if twenty cows as they will run of this breed, will furnish any more milk in a year, than twenty average cows that could have been got from any neighborhood fifteen years ago, before this Dutch imposition was landed. In Germany, on her native soil, daintily fed and cared for as one of the family, the Holstein cow is no doubt a prodigy in milk production, but here they lose their reputation at once when domiciled in farmers' yards. In our State, where more than half the value of a head of cattle is in their beef qualities, a cross between either of the latter two breeds is an abomination. Butchers shun a cross bred steer of this character, as he is never found fat, nor does his beef run to first class cuts of good quality. A cow, to be profitable for either milk or beef, should have the quality of making on flesh rapidly when not giving milk. This gives the milk during its flow that richness which is indispensable in a

good butter cow. It is no relief in the present emergency, to insist that the cows and steers would be better with better care, the average customs of a country are the best adapted to the environment, and cattle must still depend upon pasture in summer, with little or no grain, until they are taken into the stables for winter. Animals of any kind or breed, except work animals, that cannot stand such treatment, will continue to be unprofitable. Years of pampered ease have unfitted them for the rough-hog or die system prevailing among farmers generally, and as soon as the present stock can be disposed of, a change back to Short-horn blood will surely come. Before the milk animal craze came, nothing in the line of improvement was thought of except through Durham crosses. Rough natives were rapidly diminishing in numbers, or were yearly becoming rounder in their lines, and were compact in form by the infusion of the stronger blood of their breed. Steers at two years old were readily converted into excellent beef, and every farmer had a few comely ones to show to his neighbors, but these modern animals are rated by the length or strength of the pedigree. When they are shown to me, the owner at once begins to descend upon the number of pounds of butter or milk some of the ancestry produced daily, and when I step around to look the animal over, the butter or milk record is again rehearsed, with an offer to produce an affidavit of its truthfulness to ward off some invidious remark as to the brutish appearance. Advertising these qualities by interested parties has induced farmers to try to engraft them upon stock already near perfection. The experiment has signally failed. Ten years have sufficed to destroy all that had been gained up to that time. The mongrels have been kept in the vain hope of realizing some of the benefits so largely advertised, and now nothing but mongrels are left—a very poor foundation at the best upon which to build a more valuable breed. The new departure in sheep husbandry is tending in the same direction. The Merino has proved itself to be best adapted to our soil and circumstances. Experiments with Leicestershire blood is not a failure as compared with it. If farmers go headlong into coarse wool, a less number of years will suffice to ruin the Merino than was necessary to exterminate the Shorthorn.

A. C. G.

#### CULTIVATION AND MOISTURE.

In the FARMER of July 20th is an article on the benefits of cultivating corn in time of drouth, in which is clearly set forth the generally accepted theory that stirring the soil renders it more porous, and enables it to absorb and retain moisture from the atmosphere. This, if true, is a very pleasant theory—that one can tap the atmospheric reservoir and draw its moisture into the earth, at any time when rains are insufficient, by merely stirring the soil. But I question whether it is really so. Look at the little cracks or fissures in the soil when it is getting dry, through which the air can find its way into even an otherwise compact soil; but the drying-out process continues. In stirring the surface do we not, instead of admitting more air, rather break and cover up, and thus disconnect the air conduits? The newly stirred soil may be in one sense more porous, but it is disconnected porosity—dead air spaces, it would seem. It is reasonable that the momentary exposure of the cooler soil by cultivation, condenses and retains from the atmosphere an appreciable amount of moisture, or that the air circulates more freely through the mulch of loosened soil, than it would through the opening cracks and fissures before mentioned. Another theory, strengthened by my own observations and experiences as to the cause of increased moisture, is that the aeration at the surface is lessened, and the evaporation checked by stirring the soil; by which the moisture already in it and more drawn up by capillary attraction, is longer retained. Look at a well-worked summer fallow in a dry time, when perhaps two inches of the surface exposed to the sun and atmosphere is quite dry, but underneath this, when not so exposed, there is more moisture, apparently drawn up from below. Scrape away the loose, dry but frequently stirred dust in the road in the path of travel, and underneath this, even where the ground is hard and not stirred, moisture will be found. Dig into an untraveled spot by the roadside, of the same kind of soil, and it will be found dried out and baked, the moisture having evaporated by the air passages formed in the cracking earth. Again, notice that the soil is easier kept moist by cultivation in low, flat grounds, but one or two feet above the low water level, which should not be the case if the moisture is drawn from the atmosphere. But the fact is consistent with the supposition that it is drawn up from below. It may be that a mulch of straw or other litter covering the ground and allowing the air to circulate through it, may induce the formation of some moisture beneath it by condensation from the atmosphere. But even in this case it seems quite as probable that it comes mainly from the mulch checking the evaporation and retaining the moisture in the soil and what is drawn up from below. It is not my purpose to establish a theory,



BUILDING ESPECIALLY ERECTED FOR PERCHERON HORSE EXHIBIT AT ILLINOIS STATE FAIR, CHICAGO, SEPT. 6-11.

#### THE PERCHERON HORSE SHOW AT CHICAGO.

The Grandest Display of Draft Horses the World has ever Witnessed.

The above illustration represents the exterior view of a building 700 feet in length, erected for the exhibition of the American Percheron Horse-Breeders' Association, to be held in Chicago in connection with the Illinois State Fair, Sept. 6 to 11. The building itself is one of the best evidences that the Percheron exhibit has been planned and is being executed on a broader scale than any draft-horse show that has ever before taken place in the world; and no one who takes any interest whatever in any breed of horses should miss this, the opportunity of a life-time; for certainly no such collection of draft horses has ever yet been seen to gather as this show will call out, and it will probably be many years before another such grand exhibition will take place.

We are informed that nearly three hundred pure-bred Percherons will be exhibited by about fifty breeders of the United States and Canada; and that a display of several hundred grade Percherons in harness will be made, showing the different purposes for which they have demonstrated their superiority over all other breeds of horses, thus giving the farmers and stock-breeders of this country an opportunity to see in large numbers the kind of horses that meet ready sale at the most remunerative prices. The State Agricultural Society and the Percheron Association are together offering about \$7,000 in prizes, and a large number of gold, silver, and bronze medals for Percheron horses.

The jury of awards has been appointed by the highest official representatives of agriculture in three great nations, the Minister of Agriculture of France having appointed Marquis de la Motte Rogne, Inspector General of the National Stud; Commissioner Coleman having appointed Hon. George B. Loring, ex-Commissioner of Agriculture, and the Minister of Agriculture of Canada having appointed Prof. Andrew Smith, President of the College of Veterinary Surgery at Toronto.

Great interest is being taken throughout the world in the Percheron breed. The Governments of nearly every European country are buying pure Percherons to improve their native breeds, especially Russia, Germany, Italy, and Egypt. Large numbers have also been sent to Great Britain, and the South Americans are importing them in considerable numbers. One of the features of this Show will be an exhibit of Percherons bred in the United States, that are to be sent to Japan, and the Japanese Embassy is expected to visit the exhibition and inspect this stock before its shipment.

The Chinese Minister and his suite, also the French Minister to the United States, at Washington, having expressed themselves as desirous of seeing this show, have received invitations, and will probably visit the grounds Wednesday and Thursday as guests of the Percheron Horse-Breeders' Association.

THE KITTATINNY blackberry gets its name from the Kittatinny Mountains of New Jersey, near which it was discovered by Mr. Woolverton.

#### MEASLES IN THE HOG.

The French Law Against Measle Hogs—What the Disease Really is and Its Cause.

PARIS, August 7th, 1886.

From our Paris correspondent.

The French law having recently decreed hog disease to be a disqualification for marketable pork, the subject is now creating a good deal of attention. By measles, or "spotted sickness," is understood a malady of the cellular tissue of the pig, characterized by the presence in the flesh of numerous vesicles, which are really nothing else than the larva of the tape-worm in man—the *cysticercus* of the *tania solium*, is the same as that of the *cellulosa*.

The parasitic disease of measles, formerly known as a form of leprosy, has been well named in antiquity. Its name, too, comes from the old German *measle*, a pustule, or spot. The disease is presumed to be the cause of the prohibition by the Levitical law, to the Jews not to eat the flesh of the hog, apart from its being the unclean animal—in the meaning, that while it divided the hoof, it did not chew the cud. Moses likely remarked, mealy pork produced skin-eruption, or a species of leprosy. The Jews abhorred the flesh of swine, and alluded to it as being only the meat for idolaters, who made "broth of the abominable thing." Eleazar, an aged scribe, when compelled by Antiochus to taste pork, spat it forth, preferring rather "to die gloriously, than to live stained with such an abomination." The Egyptians, Moslems and other Eastern nations, were forbidden to use swine flesh. Some allege that the Egyptians did not eat pork, because the pig was ranked as a sacred animal; its snout rooting up the ground having taught man the art of plowing, as the little nautilus is said to have "taught us to sail, to spread the thin oar, and catch the driving gale." The only agricultural operation pigs executed in Palestine beyond dispute was when as wild boars, they tore up, or trampled down vineyards. If the Jews did not breed hogs, they at least herded them—probably for the Gentile market.

Little does not consider mealy pork as positively unfit for consumption; he merely observes it makes bad soup, and that the flesh is tasteless. However, such diseased meat has always been regarded as a bad alimentary substance, and since 1716, very severe penalties have been decreed against those who sold it. A special corporation was given a charter, empowering its members to examine all diseased swine flesh sent to the market. Pig measles—which must not be assumed as similar to human measles, is not so general a disease now as formerly, thanks to more careful breeding, and also to pigs being reared under superior hygienic conditions. Not more than one per cent of the total hogs reared in France are tainted with the disease.

Modern investigation by Luckart, Van Benden, Baillet, Kuchenmeister, &c., leaves no doubt that the unique cause of measles in pigs, is the immigration into its tissues of the human tape-worm in one of its stages, that of the *soolus*. Gerlach's experiments point to the fact that this infection takes place when the pig is very young, as it can, when six months old, eat these scolex with impunity. Perhaps this opinion is too absolute.

What is the tape-worm which attacks man? It is a "solitary," or tail-bladder worm, of variable length, in general from six to nearly ten feet, composed of a head and numerous joints or segments. These joints represent so many distinct worms, each uniting in itself two sexes, and producing a large number of eggs, or larvae, destined to separate on arriving at maturity. These eggs are rejected by the system, and follow the ordinary destination of all night soil. They are disseminated here and there. Davine asserts these eggs have conserved their vitality during fifteen months, in water more or less pure. When by chance one of the eggs finds its way into the diges-

tion tube of the pig, the shell is dissolved, and the animalcule become liberated.

By means of its six fangs, it saws a passage through the intestines of the pig, to gain the divers tissues of the economy—like the trichina. The animalcule in time develops into another stage, and occupies a cyst in the tissue of the now infected hog.

In the course of forty days, according to Van Benden, the larva rapidly develops itself, the posterior part of the body takes the form of a vesicle filled with fluid in which the new worm lives, moves and has its being. This is the pustule, the *cysticercus cellulosa*, varying in size from a grain of millet to a small pea, following age. In its pustule home, the head generally is folded on itself; the worm has four ventricles, and a double row of fangs or gnawers.

If the animalcule can penetrate, without having lost its vitality, into the digestive tube of a human being, it will fasten itself on the sides of the intestines, and there generate segments, or add joint to joint, till it becomes nearly ten feet long. Such is its evolution.

It has been concluded that the disease can be transmitted, because it has been discovered in a young litter. But this is not the same as heredity. A sow afflicted with measles, can communicate that disease to the fetus, and hence infect the offspring. It is prudent then never to breed with mealy pigs, especially with the female. Is the malady contagious? This is impossible, as a study of the evolution of the larva shows; but it can attack several animals at once, due to each one of them swallowing the egg under like conditions. The symptoms of the disease will vary with the number of the parasites which have invaded the organs of the animal. Often the pig will be infected while presenting the appearance of good health, and may even put up fat. It is only when some important organ is attacked—the lungs, liver or heart, that the general health becomes affected. The symptoms, too, may vary; often the animal is depressed and lazy; the skin thickens, the hair falls off easily; the voice is hoarse; there is a cough; the breath is fetid; respiration rapid, and the nostrils runnings pale.

If the disease is seated in the brain, vertigo will result; if it be long standing, the hog will be lean, with diarrhoea, &c. The tissue of the tongue is most affected with the pustules; it is by examining the tongue and mouth to discover the "spots" of *cysticercus*, that the malady can be recognized in the living animal; inside the eyelids is also a favorite place for them to lodge. This test is not infallible. When slaughtered recognition is easy. There is no cure for measles, for no medicament exists capable to dislodge these embryo worms from their cysts, or vesicles, disseminated throughout the body. It would even be useless to attempt a remedy, as mealy pork is excluded from the market, even should the animal be fat. Cooking cannot always destroy the animalcule. Pork pies and sausages should be generally viewed with suspicion. The best use a mealy hog can be turned to, is into soap or manure.

#### FARMERS' CONGRESS.

A Congress of farmers was in session at St. Paul, Minn., last week, and among other business transacted was the adoption of a resolution recommending an appropriation of \$3,000,000 by the government to be used in stamping out contagious diseases among domestic animals. The Secretary of State was requested to instruct Ministers to Germany and France to use all proper means to prevent restrictions upon American farm products properly inspected and shipped. A resolution adopted recommends the restoration of the wool tariff of 1867 and the maintenance of the tariff on rice and sugar. State Legislatures were earnestly requested to prevent dealing in futures. The oleomargarine law was approved.

A final resolution provides for the incorporation of the Farmers' Congress and requests the farmers of each State to organize

Farmers' Assemblies, which shall be entitled to send representatives to the Farmers' National Congress. In the discussion of the tariff resolution the overwhelming sentiment was for protection. To realize the importance of this latter recommendation it must be remembered that free trade papers invariably assert that the farmers of the northwest are nearly a unit against a protective tariff. Yet here is a convention made up of representative farmers, and they were nearly unanimous in favor of a protective policy.

Resolutions were also adopted asking Congress to create the office of Secretary of Agriculture and to make the officer filling it a member of the President's Cabinet. Another urged the extension of the signal service to all places reached by telegraph. Congress was also requested to regulate interstate commerce in such manner as to protect the productive industries of the country. It was decided to hold the next meeting of the Congress the first Tuesday before the Fat Stock Show of 1887.

#### THE CORN CROP.

Reports from the corn belt up to the close of last week indicate an improvement in the outlook for the crop in Ohio, and parts of Indiana and Minnesota, in which States there is now a promise of nearly an average yield. In Ohio and Indiana the prospects are reported as unusually promising.

In Carver, Meeker, Ramsey, St. Louis, Sherburne, and Wadena counties of Minnesota an average yield is indicated. The remaining counties reporting this week promise 50 to 80 per cent of an average.

In Nebraska Hamilton county promises a full yield; Buffalo, Harlan and Webster counties a fair yield, and Douglas, Gage, Otoe and Richardson less than one-half the usual yields.

In Kansas Ellis county promises a full average crop, while Cherokee, Butler and Lyons counties promise from 40 to 50 per cent of an average.

In Wisconsin none of the counties heard from this week give the promise of an average yield. In Ozaukee county the average falls to 30 per cent. In Vernon and Kenosha counties the average is 85 per cent, while Dunn, Lafayette and Sauk counties give the promise of less than half the usual yield.

In Illinois a general improvement of five to ten per cent is noted, but the general average for the State remains low. In DuPage, Green, Henry, Madison, Stephenson and Whiteside counties the average ranges from 40 to 50 per cent. In Bond, Cass, Coles, Crawford, Christian, Fulton, Stark, kee, Lake, Macoupin, Pulaski, Shelby, Kankakee and Wabash counties the average ranges from 60 to 90 per cent. In Washington county the yield will be less than 20 per cent of an average.

In Iowa the general average is low for all the counties, running from 40 to 90 per cent. In Ringold and Wayne counties the average is 40 per cent. In Fayette, Jasper, Iowa, Crawford, Mitchell and Winnebago counties the average is 50 to 70 per cent. In Cedar, Davis and Linn counties the average is 80 to 90 per cent.

The average in Missouri ranges from 30 to 65 per cent. The average for the entire State does not promise one-half of an average yield.

In Michigan, Barry and Saginaw Counties are the only ones promising a full yield. The reports from the various counties run from 45 to 85 per cent of an average.

Looking over the reports it will be seen that the States growing the largest amounts of corn are the ones giving the lowest estimates, with the exception of Ohio and Indiana. With light crops in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Nebraska, the corn crop of 1886 is likely to prove a deficient one in quantity with favorable weather from now until maturity. An early frost would prove disastrous.

MR. A. L. RICHARDSON, of Parma, Jackson County, writes that he has disposed of all his Velvet Chaff wheat. He can yet furnish the other varieties he advertises.

#### PARTITION FENCES.

Rights and Liabilities of Adjoining Owners.

MIDLAND CITY, Aug. 21, 1886.

To the Editor of the Michigan Farmer.

DEAR SIR: Can you inform me through your valuable paper, if I build my share of line fence between my farm and one adjoining, and turn my stock in, and they get upon my neighbor's land because he has no fence, or not a lawful fence, am I liable for damage? I desire and am obliged to use the land for pasture. He refuses to build his fence and threatens prosecution if my stock enters his premises. What recourse have I?

SUBSCRIBER.

The statute especially declares that damages are not recoverable for trespass on lands not enclosed by lawful fences. Section 817 Compiled Laws says:

No person shall be entitled to recover any sum of money in any action at law, for any damage done upon lands by any beast or beasts, unless the partition fences by which such lands are wholly or in part enclosed, and belonging to such person, or by him to be kept in repair, shall be of the same height and description as is required by the provisions of Section 1, Chapter 18, of the Revised Statutes of 1846, being section 605 of the Compiled Laws.

Your recourse is to notify the fence viewers in your town of the neglect or refusal of the party to keep up his portion of the partition fence, and they can take action to compel him to either build such fence or pay for having it built. Upon this point the statute is very clear. Upon the subject of fences and fence viewers, it says in Chapter XXI, Compiled Laws:

SECTION 1. All fences four and a half feet high, and in good repair, consisting of rails, timber, boards, or stone walls, or any combination thereof, and all brooks, rivers, ponds, creeks, ditches and hedges, or other things which shall be considered equivalent thereto, in the judgment of the fence viewers within whose jurisdiction the same may be, shall be deemed legal and sufficient fences.

SECTION 2. The respective occupants of lands enclosed with fences, shall keep up and maintain partition fences between their own and the next adjoining enclosures, in equal shares, so long as both parties continue to improve the same.

SECTION 3. In case any party shall neglect to repair or rebuild any partition fence, which of right he ought to maintain, the aggrieved party may complain to two or more fence viewers of the township, who after due notice to such party, shall proceed to examine the same; and if they shall determine that the fence is insufficient, they shall signify the same in writing to the delinquent occupant of the land, and direct him to repair or rebuild the same within such time as they shall judge reasonable; and if such fence shall not be repaired or rebuilt accordingly, it shall be lawful for the complainant to repair or rebuild the same.

SECTION 4. When any deficient fence, built up or repaired by any complainant as provided in the preceding section, shall be adjudged sufficient by two or more of the fence viewers, and the value of such repairing or building up, together with their fees, shall be ascertained by a certificate under their hands, the complainant shall have a right to demand either of the occupant or owner of the land where the fence was deficient, double the sum so ascertained; and in case of neglect or refusal to pay the sum so due, for one month after demand thereof made, the complainant may recover the same, with interest at one per cent a month, in an action for money paid, laid out and expended.

SECTION 5. When any controversy shall arise about the rights of the respective occupants, in partition fences, or their obligation to maintain the same, either party may apply to two or more fence viewers of the township where the lands lie, who, after due notice to each party, may in writing assign to each thereof, and direct the time within which each party shall erect or repair his share of the fence in the manner before provided; which assignment, being recorded in the township clerk's office, shall be binding upon the parties, and upon all the succeeding occupants of the lands; and they shall be obliged always thereafter to maintain their respective portions of said fence.

SECTION 6. In case any party shall refuse or neglect to erect and maintain the part of any fence assigned to him by the fence viewers, the same may be erected and maintained by the aggrieved party, in the manner before provided; and he shall be entitled to double to value thereof, ascertained in the manner aforesaid, and to be recovered in like manner.

POLL TAX.

A correspondent inquires as to how old a person must be before he is exempt from a poll tax. The tax is collected from all persons between the ages of twenty-one and fifty-one years, except in the cases of "pensioners of the United States, persons exempted by the military laws of the State, those who are mentally incompetent, and paupers," who are exempted.

It is a noteworthy fact that since the exclusion of American hog products, cases of trichinosis have not decreased in Germany. Recently the meat of twenty hogs slaughtered for account of a sausage butcher was microscopically examined by experts in the "central yards" at Berlin. The meat of fourteen of the hogs was condemned. All was full of trichinae. The authorities congratulate themselves upon the vigilance of the public meat inspectors, though the consumers become more convinced every day of the fallacy of the theories which led to the exclusion of American hog products from the German markets.

A LATE report from Dakota says that wheat is averaging from 19 to 18 bushels per acre, and the grain is grading well. Minnesota's yield is now put at from eight to 24 bushels per acre, running very irregular.







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**Horticultural.**

**MICHIGAN STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

SOUTH HAVEN, Mich., Aug. 28, 1886.  
To the Editor of the Michigan Farmer.  
DEAR SIR:—The Michigan State Horticultural Society has in preparation, (to appear in the forthcoming volume of its transactions,) a History of Horticulture in Michigan, in which it is the purpose to give an authentic account of the rise and progress of Tree, Plant and Fruit Culture in the State, together with the present condition of these interests, and their future prospects. It is also the purpose to devote a large space to each county, separately considered, giving as full an account as practicable of the origin, rise and present condition of these interests in each, with their adaptation to such pursuits, as indicated by location, soils and climate.

We, therefore, strongly urge that any and all persons possessed of information of this character, or of the facilities for collecting it, will lend their efforts to the work of supplying the needed information by responding to the subjoined inquiries, and forwarding the same to the undersigned, at an early date.

1. When, where and by whom was the first settlement made in your county?
2. Was it made for agricultural, lumbering or other purposes?
3. When, where, for what purpose, and by whom were the first fruit trees planted?
4. Have any fruit plantations been made in your county for commercial purposes, and if so, by whom?
5. Have fruit plantations generally proved successful, and what is their present condition?
6. Where are the fruits usually marketed, and how transported?
7. Have any nurseries been established in your county, when, and by whom, and are they still in existence?
8. If discontinued, why?
9. Give a full account of any old fruit or other trees, planted prior to the settlement of the county, by French traders, Indians or others.
10. Are there any notable plantations or preserved groves of trees, for cemeteries, parks, or other ornamental purposes, whether public or private?
11. Mention, generally, any notable or interesting circumstances, within your knowledge, pertaining to the horticultural history of the State, or any section of the same.

We appeal to all to lend effective aid to this object; and, in so doing, to assist in putting the earlier history of their own section into authentic and permanent form. Any and all persons supplying information in aid to this object will be entitled to receive a copy of the volume containing the proposed History, when published.

Address all communications to T. T. Lyon, President, South Haven, Van Buren Co., Michigan, as early as Oct. 1st.

Please allow me to appeal, through your columns, to any and all your readers, who may be in possession of valuable or interesting facts, especially pertaining to the early settlement of Michigan, the planting of pioneer orchards, the establishment of nurseries; or, in fact, to any events of a horticultural nature, of interest to our people, to communicate them, either through your columns, or directly to the undersigned. There are doubtless many such particulars, only existing as family or neighborhood anecdotes; which, unless thus rescued from oblivion, must sooner or later be lost with the decease of the actors.

T. T. LYON.

**Profitable Gardening.**

A farmer, who is moderately successful in raising farm crops, complains that he can do little or nothing with garden vegetables. The seeds often fail to come up; and when they do, they make a feeble growth, and the crops are poor in quality. They do not pay for one-half the labor he expends on them, and by autumn his garden is a mass of weeds. He asks if there is any way by which he can do better, as he has hardly yet made up his mind to give up vegetables. We think he will find no difficulty if he will adopt the five following remedies:

1. First of all, let the garden be in an oblong shape, either by altering the outline of the present one, or by laying out a new one, so that you may do the cultivating with a horse—a space being left at each end ten feet wide for the horse to turn on, as we have pointed out on former occasions. A busy farmer cannot afford to spade and hoe his garden, for if he undertakes it, he will be sure to have poor crops and plenty of weeds. But by planting all his crops in long drills, to be dressed with a narrow cultivator, after plowing well in spring with one horse, he can keep everything clean by going over it once a week, with little trouble, and the vegetables will grow rapidly under such treatment.

2. The next thing, after laying out the garden, is to give it thorough drainage, by placing the tile as near as 25 feet. It will be a waste of labor to try to raise anything on badly drained ground, and you would lose all chance for early work and early crops, in waiting for the soil to become dry. Perfect drainage is the all-essential requirement for early gardening.

3. The next thing is plenty of manure. It must be broken fine as it is thoroughly mixed with the soil, and the intermixing will be more complete if several applications are made, and each one plowed and harrowed in separately. This repeated work will put the ground into excellent order—through pulverization being a great leading element of success. Subsoiling two or three times will aid in giving depth, which will not only afford the chance for the roots to turn on, to a greater depth, but it will enable the plants to draw moisture from below in time of drought. Soils which are benefited by superphosphate may have an application in connection with barn manure; or ground bone may be used by placing it some weeks before applying in this alternating layers with fermenting barn manure.

4. If the soil is too clayey, spread a thick coat of sand over it before plowing and harrowing. This will render it lighter, and the benefit will last at least a hundred years, for the sand will not evaporate, or wear out or wash away.

5. Very important it is to exclude all weeds. They rob the soil, and rob the growing crops. If the ground has already become foul, take extra pains to destroy weeds by using the horse-cultivator very often. By frequently stirring the soil, you will kill the young weeds just as they are sprouting and before they have reached the surface of the ground. This extra labor will not be one-

half of that required to kill them after they have grown half a foot.

You will now say, perhaps, that all this care and labor will be greater than you have ever had, with your present weedy and unproductive garden. This may possibly be true, but there will be one great difference; by the mode we recommend you will have an abundance of all that a garden can produce; while by your present management you have little or nothing, or very poor returns. After you have made the necessary preparation, and have matters fairly under way, you will be surprised at the moderate labor and rich returns. If you make a fair estimate, you will probably say that your garden supplies obtained by the improved mode, will not cost you one-tenth the labor required for the same quantity by the old way.—Country Gentleman.

**Horticulturists on Grape Rot.**

The Leavenworth County (Ks.) Horticultural Society had the subject of grape rot under discussion at the July meeting. The members of the Society gave their experience and observations as follows:

In answer to an inquiry Prof. Hawn said that in one day, the grape rot made its appearance in his neighborhood and destroyed a large part of the crop. He said that he had expressed in his report his belief that the rot existed under any and all circumstances, but this year noticed that grapes, in the vineyards round and about him, rotted steadily until the shower—which we had lately—since when they have not rotted.

Mr. Holman asked Mr. Burr if his grapes were affected by the rot.

Mr. Burr replied that he had not seen a particle of rot on his vines.

Mr. Terwilliger said his grapes were rotting badly, had noticed some grapes uninjured on vines side by side with those severe, affected by the rot. He had tried stripping the vines of foliage, thought perhaps the grapes needed more light; rotted just the same, had cut back some to the collar; had two new bearing canes grow from each and the grapes on this new wood rotted just the same.

Mr. Eason said his grapes were all rotting, those that he cultivated were worse than those which he left entirely alone.

Prof. Hawn called the attention of the Society to the fact that this season was directly opposite to last year's and we have had the grape rot just the same.

Dr. Stayman said that grape rot could be prevented by cutting back the vine to the collar.

Prof. Hawn would like the Society to appoint a committee to examine his vineyard, which has been so treated, and if said committee found any evidence of rot, would give them the crop. Would not state that this method was a specific remedy, but believed that nine-tenths of the vines so treated would not rot, but after the new growth reaches the third year, indications of rot would appear. Thinks the Martha rots badly; one of his neighbors bagged his grapes, but did not save them.

Dr. Stayman said when the grasshoppers were here, he cut down his vines two inches below the surface of the ground, the vines sprouted, but no attention was paid to them as they had intended to kill the vines which had become worthless. They bore a good crop, lying right on the ground and not a rotten one among them, and experimenting for some time with same results, came to the conclusion that cutting back and training up new wood each year, would be a remedy for grape rot. Thinks the rot is a result of overbearing or exhaustion.

Cutting back and letting them rest one year renews them and the same result would be reached if the vines were not allowed to overbear.

Mr. Jewett here told the Society of an early variety grape, which could be seen at the residence of Mr. John Johnson, which was trained up very high on the south side of the house, and which was, when he saw it, hanging full of beautiful clusters of grapes, which showed no indications of rot whatever; was told that fully half of them had been picked off, in order that the vine should not overbear.

**Unprofitable Apples—Lessons from Last Year.**

Every dealer who bought apples last fall and every orchardist who stored his own fruit, was compelled to sell at a loss in spring, while thousands of barrels were sold at a mere nominal price for evaporation. Many more were taken to the barn as stock food. Evidently, with the stagnation in business and the great numbers of idle people, the immense crop of 1885 was in excess of the consumptive demand. Notwithstanding this great crop of fruit, on looking through any market one would find hundreds of barrels of small, imperfect, badly colored or insect eaten fruit, and other hundreds of otherwise first-class fruit with the barrel centres filled with a few quarts of "trash," all going to show that fruit-growers are standing in their own light and working directly against their own interests in more ways than one. Their orchards are not properly planted and cared for, thus producing much imperfect fruit, and of the fruit grown very much is put into the barrels and forced upon the markets that should go to the evaporator or to the hogpen, and to that extent relieve the overstocked market.

The small, imperfect, light-colored or wormy fruit comes from trees not growing under favorable circumstances, or else infected with insects, and whatever the cause it should be sought and removed. It is impossible for good fruit to be produced and well colored unless the trees—bodies, branches and leaves as well as the ground surrounding them, be fully exposed to the sunlight. Every orchard whose full-grown trees are nearer together than thirty-six feet (forty is better) is by so much too thick. It is as futile to expect well-grown, fine fruit from starving trees as to expect animals to yield paying results on scanty rations; every bearing orchard needs therefore to be well manured, not only with stable manure, but with some form of fertilizer containing potash and phosphoric acid. Every orchard needs to be carefully looked over each year, and judiciously pruned so that light and air be admitted and not too much be left to induce overbearing; this obviates the necessity for cutting away large branches and insures first-class fruit.

Every orchard should be watched with care, and at any reasonable expense of time and money be protected from attacks of insects; it is folly to expect good fruit without perfect foliage and health, and this means freedom from insects. With the use of stock and poultry in the orchards, and with the force-pump and insecticides when the dire necessity comes, there is no excuse for surrendering the fruit to the ravages of these pests. And, lastly, when the fruit is grown and picked, much greater care should be used in sorting and in seeing that no specimen of any way imperfect or undersized or not sufficiently colored gets into the barrels. Two scallwags are enough to spoil the looks of a large flock of fine sheep; and a quart of poor apples changes a barrel of "No. 1's" to second or third class, and he is no friend to the fruit-grower who persists in forcing them into the market. While there is no occasion for orchardists to be discouraged, there is great occasion to learn much, and happy will they be when all shall profit by the lesson.—J. S. Woodward, in N. Y. Tribune.

**CALIFORNIA RAISINS.**

Raisin-growing has become a great industry in California. Fresno County is the center of the industry, and ranks second in the counties of the State in the amount produced. Last year her production was 135,000 boxes, or 2,700,000 lbs. Referring to last season's crop the Fresno Republican says: "This immense amount of fruit is now entirely out of market, and for some months past it has been impossible to secure any first quality Fresno raisins. We know of instances where \$5 has been refused for a 2½ pound box of very choice raisins in this city. People would be going East to visit relatives and friends, and desiring to take along a box or two of really fine raisins, to show what has and is being accomplished by those engaged in the industry here, they have paid fancy prices for all of the 'chromo' packed Fresno raisins to be had. Indications are that the raisin crop of this section will be fully 100 per cent greater than last year, and every raisin-packer is taking special care to secure perfect and attractive packing. So important has the raisin industry become in Fresno County, that Eastern dealers come here to contract with producers for their entire crop."

**Strawberries in Ohio.**

M. Crawford, in the Rural World, reports his experience with certain of the newer strawberries.

Of new sorts fruited with me this season, I am greatly pleased with the Jesso, a variety originally obtained and owned by F. W. Loudon, Janesville, Wis. It has fruited two seasons with me, and I have, so far, failed to find a weak spot in it. The plant is all one could ask, and is wonderfully productive. The fruit is very large, sometimes over eight inches in circumference, and so good that one would hardly want sugar with it. I think Mr. Loudon will introduce it next spring.

The Bonanza, that Purdy likes so well, is not so much account. The plant is all right, but the fruit is terribly misshapen, of a pale orange color, and of a mushy texture. The flavor is good, but the berries are few. It belongs to Henry Young, Ada, O. When I sent him my report he said it was correct, and he is glad he never sold it.

The Itasca, from J. H. Haynes, of Delphi, Ind., is one of the very prolific bearers. I have seen twenty-five ripe berries and 200 unripe ones, on a single plant. It is roundish, about the size of Captain Jack—one inch in diameter on an average—and very good.

No. 19, from the same source, is a very large berry, and of fine appearance; twenty-three weighed thirty-two ounces in Indiana. Hathaway's Nos. 3 and 5, from T. T. Lyon, are hardy, healthy, vigorous and productive sorts. No. 3 is rather late, and inclined to ripen unevenly at first, but it will produce a great number of fine berries. No. 5 is made on the long principle. Everything about it is long, and the fruit is produced in great abundance. It is of a bright red, and is very attractive looking and very good. It and No. 3 are pistillate.

Jewell is all right so far. It must become a favorite on account of its size and productiveness.

May King is all that was ever claimed for it, except that it is not so very early. With me it would supersede the Crescent. Parry rusted so badly last fall that it was more dead than alive in the spring. I cannot trust it.

Garretson rusted nearly as badly as the Parry. I want no more of it. Springdale, though received from the introducer, was so badly mixed that there was but little satisfaction in it. It bore well, but I was glad when it was done, so that it could be put out of sight.

Henderson is a good plant, but not a very good bearer. The fruit resembles the old Seth Boyden, and, like that variety, it ripens unevenly. It is of the best quality. Prince of Berries is a very good berry, bright scarlet with yellow seeds, and, with good culture, it bears a heavy crop of large fruit.

Black Giant is remarkable for its dark color and great size. The plant is all right, and bears reasonably well. This variety is a great favorite with the pickers, on account of its size. Many of the largest ones are hollow. Cumberland Triumph is a favorite everywhere. If it were a little firmer, and of a darker color, it would be at the head of the list nearly everywhere.

Sucker State resembles the above, and is really an excellent variety.

Captain Jack always does well with me. It has some characteristics peculiar to itself. The plant is only of moderate size, but very tough and hardy. It has rather small dark green leaves, and it seems to get along with less water than other sorts. It ripens but few berries at a time, and each day one unacquainted with it would think that it was the last picking. Next day it will be just as fine, and so it continues until the last berry ripens, if the season is at all favorable. Jersey Queen is a large, fine berry, and the plant is all one could wish. I never saw it so nice as it was this season.

My No. 6 is still the largest berry I ever saw. It has been everything for size now for three years. It received a \$10 prize this season for the heaviest ten berries. It is never misshapen. The plant is very strong, and is a good bearer.

Of black raspberries, I will the Tyler, Hillborn and Ada. The Souhegan is about the same as Tyler. The Hillborn is far the

best blackcap I ever saw. It is about the size of the Gregg, and all right every way.

The Ada is just two weeks later than the Souhegan, and far later in blooming than any other. It is very large, of good flavor, and is produced in abundance. It is fully a week later than the Nemaha.

I am settled on the blackberry. For all good points give me the Agawam. It is hardest of all, best of all, and most prolific.

**Culture of the Tomato.**

During the few past years efforts have been made to improve the tomato in size, solidity, flavor and earliness of maturity. There has been progress in all these directions, not perhaps so much actual improvement as many of us believe, but still good tomatoes have in the new kinds sustained their reputation. Old varieties seem to gradually give way or else people tire of them, and they thus disappear. We have no tomato the same as we had thirty years ago, at least under the same name, and yet we had them pretty large and good kinds even at that day.

Without entering closely into the historical part of this inquiry, we yet think our tomatoes have really improved in smoothness and quality as a general thing, when any one has taken any interest in having a good article; and in tomato-culture there certainly has been marked improvement. Recently there have been brought into the community several ideas worthy of note in those who strive for the very best article. In regard to training, it is asserted that much better fruit—especially for eating raw—can be had from plants fastened to slant stakes, than when the plants are allowed to run at will over the ground, or even when they are fastened to slanting trellises. Heavy stakes are required of course, as the great weight of a plant in fruit cannot be borne by light stakes. Strong bushes are also frequently used, and they answer very well, though sometimes the vines become very dense and obstruct ventilation and the ready ripening of the fruit.

In regard to training the plants, much attention has been given to thinning the branches, especially when grown on stakes, and in shortening back some of the branches to within a few buds of where the fruit is to set. Those who have followed this practice judiciously report good results.

But the latest novelty in tomato-culture is in the matter of root pruning in order to produce earliness. In this matter some surprising results have been achieved according to those who have given in their experience. While the plants are young they are transplanted several times, which of course destroys some of the roots, and after they are put out into their final resting-places a spade is used in awhile thrust down into the ground a foot or so from the main-stalk. In this of course size and perhaps quality is sacrificed to a few weeks' earliness; but many are willing to pay this penalty for the sake of the early dish. The principle here is much the same as is often done to get early grapes when a ring of bark is taken off. The supply of food being checked the result is earlier fruit but with slightly impaired flavor.

These are the leading suggestions that have been made in improved tomato-culture during the past few years—not great improvements, it is true, but still not without value.—Germanon Telegraph.

**Horticultural Notes.**

In Germany a small nursery is attached to nearly every common school, and the children are taught to grow trees from seed and cuttings, to graft and to bud, so that they acquire some practical knowledge of and intelligent interest in the growth of trees and shrubs.

The grapes of Southern New Jersey will be nearly a total loss this season, owing to the late season, caused by wet weather. The loss is estimated at \$50,000 in the vicinity of Egg Harbor City alone.

Tax plum, Shipper's Pride, originating in New York, is a new and promising variety, which is claimed to be very hardy, having as yet endured the severest winters without injury. It is large, dark purple, juicy and sweet, and of handsome appearance.

The total value of foreign green fruits imported into New York in 1885, was \$6,586,717. This would be largely increased by the aggregate consigned to other ports. The value of the lemons alone was \$1,371,233, while the number reached 24,329,309 dozens, all sent from Mediterranean ports. The value of imported oranges is set down at \$965,561; of bananas, \$1,066,412.

The American Cultivator says: "The Bartlett is a variety of pears especially liable to overbear, and an overloaded tree is pretty sure to blight. Go over it and select all the inferior specimens, picking them off, throwing the poorest to the pigs, and putting a few of the largest in a dark room in a warm place, where they will ripen into fairly good eating. The remainder will be enough better to pay, but all should be gathered before ripening. With a wagon box sixteen feet long thirty to forty colonies may be transported, and one strong horse will draw them about three miles an hour. We prefer moving bees late at night or early in the morning. When moonlight it is more pleasant and safer to move them at night. Prepared as we prepare them, they may be moved in the warmest weather. We extract most of the honey, and nail the frames in position with two-inch wire nails; a nail through each end of the top bar of each frame is sufficient. The bottom bars are not fastened, as a sudden jolt might break the combs."

Or apple-blossom honey a Pennsylvania apiarist writes to the Canadian Bee Journal: "I have had no difficulty in getting a large quantity of thick, elegantly flavored, delicious apple blossom honey. It is true it is not as light colored as white clover, but was pronounced the 'best' by every one who saw it when fresh. Like cherry blossom honey, which also is a delicious honey with a delightful perfume when new, it loses to a great extent the high flavor and perfume, which exists it over every other honey, when it has been exposed two or three months, and then has the 'quince-like' taste mentioned by Prof. Cook. The bitter taste referred to 'apple' is surely due to honey, or its admixture with pollen gathered from other source than apple, for we never have it here. Our honey is never impregnated with bitterness in this locality, except in rare seasons, from chestnut blossom, when white clover ceases to bloom early; our bees then gather considerable quantity of very dark quince-like honey, and spoil everything left in the hive, for market."

The Michigan Farmer received and innocently consigned to the waste-basket the proceedings of the "Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association," including a free "ad" for an alleged evaporator, which certain of our esteemed contemporaries published in good faith. It was a palpable swindle, of the "chicken incubator" order, as our esteemed contemporaries have discovered, and bears the "color" of a notorious party who under another of his numerous aliases, offers to send directions for making an evaporator, which is not constructed upon correct principles. Do not be tempted by the flattering inducements, if you have chance to see the alleged "proceedings," into sending stamps

**NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.**

**MOUNT HOPE NURSERIES**  
ROCHESTER, N.Y.  
These nurseries, established nearly half a century ago and still under the same management, offer for fall planting, the largest, most complete and carefully cultivated collections in the United States of Fruit Trees, Standard and Dwarf.  
Grasses, All the best new and old sorts.  
Small Fruits, the best, including the famous new Gooseberry "Industry."  
Ornamental Trees and Shrubs.  
Hedges of every class, the finest in cultivation.  
Hardy Bulbs, Tulips, etc.  
Catalogues sent to all regular customers free. To others, No. 1, Fruit, 25c; No. 2, Ornamentals, 50c; No. 3, Small Fruits, 25c; No. 4, Grasses, 25c; No. 5, Hedges, 25c; No. 6, Roses, 25c.  
**ELLWANGER & BARRY**

for directions, for the scheme is a fraud of the first water.

C. A. GREEN, in the Rural New Yorker, mentions that in an application of nitrate of soda to spring-planted strawberries, where the nitrate touched the leaves it burned holes in them as if they had been pierced with hot knitting needles. He adds: "Nearly as many plants are killed by kindness as by neglect. A man sent to plant the Barhat raspberry put too much manure 'jumbled' with much about the plants and many died. A friend writes that all the plants we sent him last spring started well, but he destroyed them by applying liquid manure not sufficiently diluted. How often trees are killed by placing manure in contact with the roots, or in excess near them, by excessive surface watering, causing the soil to bake; how often plants and vines are injured by some fanciful experiment, by too close or deep culture in summer, or smothering in winter."

**Apiarian.**

AN apiarist who is entitled to write Rev. before his name, has published a book on bee-keeping, "every word of it in poetry!" Now let us have an opera founded on this "poem," whose score shall portray the various phases of apiculture, and then—well,—nothing; the natural sequence.

D. A. JONES, of Beeton, Canada, uses chloroform in introducing queens. He is very successful, seldom losing a queen when introduced in that way. He puts a few drops of chloroform on a rag or sponge in the smoker, and giving a few puffs in at the entrance, stupefies them, and by the time the bees recover from their stupor they know nothing of what has happened.

Mrs. HARRISON, in the Prairie Farmer, says: "Bees are rearing more brood now than during the honey flow, and require a great deal of water; ours used two pails full yesterday. They appear to prefer to suck water from cloth, and that which is put into rusty tin vessels; the cloth is put into them and hanging over on the outside acts as a siphon, and at all times is thickly covered with bees."

A CORRESPONDENT of the Indiana Farmer thinks much of the prejudice that exists against extracted honey is due to the fact that it does not taste like comb honey. This difference in flavor, he thinks, is due to the extractor, the metal of which more or less affects it. He has known extracted honey to taste of the castor-oil used in oiling the extractor. When honey can be extracted in porcelain and put up in glass, he is sure there will be less fault found with it.

A KANSAS correspondent of Gleanings sends a very favorable report of his experience with Alsike clover. He says: "Our five acres, sown last season, for the past five weeks has been roaring with bees, and they are still working on it to some extent. The month of June, in the past five seasons, has been our discontent, and the hardest on bees of any month in the year—no white clover, no basswood, the spring bloom all gone, fighting and robbing all through the month. Alsike bridges a very bad place, besides the hay and pasturage we get from it. Nearly 100 colonies had access to our Alsike, and our own 30 colonies increased to 66 by natural swarming. From one colony that did not swarm, we extracted a common water-pail full. Several others nearly finished their sections. All the first swarms, and some of the after-swarms, have the lives full of honey and brood—not a swarm lost by absconding. I gave all a frame of brood."

The Canadian Bee Journal says: "We have found after a fair trial that an ordinary wagon without springs, on a good level road, will carry colonies of bees properly prepared, without breaking any combs even with strong colonies. We place no straw or other soft material under the hive. We can draw thirty colonies on a one horse wagon by placing two rows in a box, then a rack made of boards on top, upon which two more rows are put. With a wagon box sixteen feet long thirty to forty colonies may be transported, and one strong horse will draw them about three miles an hour. We prefer moving bees late at night or early in the morning. When moonlight it is more pleasant and safer to move them at night. Prepared as we prepare them, they may be moved in the warmest weather. We extract most of the honey, and nail the frames in position with two-inch wire nails; a nail through each end of the top bar of each frame is sufficient. The bottom bars are not fastened, as a sudden jolt might break the combs."

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**NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.**

**Nursery Stock-Fall of 1886**  
The Old and Reliable **SYRACUSE NURSERIES** Come to the Front for the Fall of '86  
With the choicest stock of specialties, STANDARD APPLE, STD and DWARF PEARS, PLUMS and CHERRY TREES, and a very superior assortment of GENERAL NURSERY STOCK, both FRUIT and ORNAMENTAL, ALL in the most reliable and desirable manner. All Nurserymen and Dealers are cordially invited to inspect this superior stock of correspondence with us, before placing their orders for the coming Fall.  
When writing always mention this paper.  
**SMITH, POWELL & LAMB, Syracuse, New York.**

**RUSSIAN HEAVE POWDERS.**  
Read the Testimonials changed each week.  
W. N. McKAY, Richmond Center, Wis., says: "I have sold over 100 packages of the Russian Heave Powders, and never had a complaint. They are a good thing."

**A NECESSITY UPON EVERY FARM**  
Economy, Exactness and Carefulness.

Every farmer should have the means of weighing his produce before he sells it, and also what he buys. As a matter of economy there is nothing that will pay him better. The high price of scales prevents many from providing themselves with them, and they are thus at the mercy of every dishonest party they may do business with. One of the very best makes of scales now on the market are those manufactured by the Chicago Scale Co., and for the benefit of those who read the FARMER we have arranged with that company to supply orders sent through us at a great reduction. The prices are so low that the saving of loss on a load of wheat, pork, wool, poultry or butter, will pay the entire cost. Just look at the prices below and judge for yourself.

No. 1—Barn Scale.

Weights from 14 pound to 900 pounds. Size of platform 17 by 16 inches.  
Price \$15 00, and MICHIGAN FARMER one year. With wheels \$20 00 extra; or \$20.  
No. 2—Farm Scale.

Weights from 14 pound to 900 pounds. Size of platform 17 by 16 inches.  
Price \$15 00, and MICHIGAN FARMER one year. With wheels \$20 00 extra; or \$20.  
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AND—  
**STATE JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.**  
GIBBONS BROTHERS,  
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**MICHIGAN FARMER,**  
DETROIT, TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1888.

This Paper is Entered at the Detroit Post-  
office as second class matter.

**WHEAT.**

The receipts of wheat in this market the past week amounted to 353,037 bu., against 401,824 bu., the previous week and 465,911 bu. for corresponding week in 1885. Shipments for the week were 129,388 bu. against 166,746 bu. the previous week, and 185,633 bu. the corresponding week in 1885. The stocks of wheat now held in this city amount to 1,501,511 bu., against 1,308,394 last week and 807,940 bu. at the corresponding date in 1885. The visible supply of this grain on Aug. 21 was 39,892,852 bu. against 38,017,403 the previous week, and 41,244,399 bu. at corresponding date in 1885. This shows an increase from the amount reported the previous week of 1,803,449 bu. The export clearances for Europe for the week ending Aug. 21 were 3,205,595 bu. against 2,430,019 the previous week, and for the last eight weeks they were 18,615,017 bu. against 5,793,127 for the corresponding eight weeks in 1885.

Wheat has been on the down grade all week, declining from day to day until at the close on Saturday the loss was 1 1/2c on No. 1 white, 1 1/2c on No. 2 red, and 1c on No. 3 red. The decline on futures was a little less. The sales in this market for the week were 173,000 bu. spot and 2,000,000 bu. futures, a total of 2,173,000 bu. as compared with 2,227,000 bu. the previous week, and 2,394,000 bu. for the corresponding week in 1885. Both Chicago and New York closed quiet and weak, with limited demand from all sources. In this market yesterday wheat opened weak, declined fully 1/2c under unfavorable reports from other points, but finally recovered a little of the decline. The decline at the close was 3/4c on past prices on Saturday. Chicago and New York declined in about the same ratio. Liverpool was quiet and London dull. England is having fine weather, and this has weakened sellers. The war scare in Southern Europe is over for the present, and the market had nothing to sustain it. The situation yesterday was "bearish" all over the country, but this may change when least expected. Receipts are heavy.

The following table exhibits the daily closing prices of spot wheat from Aug. 2d to August 30th, inclusive:

	Aug. 2	Aug. 3	Aug. 4	Aug. 5	Aug. 6	Aug. 7	Aug. 8	Aug. 9	Aug. 10	Aug. 11	Aug. 12	Aug. 13	Aug. 14	Aug. 15	Aug. 16	Aug. 17	Aug. 18	Aug. 19	Aug. 20	Aug. 21	Aug. 22	Aug. 23	Aug. 24	Aug. 25	Aug. 26	Aug. 27	Aug. 28	Aug. 29	Aug. 30
No. 1	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2
No. 2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2
No. 3	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2	73 1/2

The following table gives the closing prices each day of the past week on the various grades of No. 1 white:

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Aug.	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2	77 1/2
Sept.	80	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2
Oct.	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2

For No. 2 red the closing prices on the various dates each day of the past week were as follows:

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Aug.	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2	75 1/2
Sept.	78 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2	79 1/2
Oct.	80 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2	81 1/2

There is little new to note in the outlook for wheat. Reports from England confirm previous statements of a poor crop this season. A correspondent of the London Times, who has collected crop reports from 370 farmers, places the condition of wheat (100 representing a full average crop) at 86.8 this year, against 101.4 in 1885, 119.2 in 1884, 91.6 in 1883, 92.2 in 1882, and 90 in 1881. The long winter and cold and dry spring, and the decline in the price of wheat, led to a very considerable reduction in area, and a decidedly short crop is inevitable. The United Kingdom, from Aug. 24, 1885, to Aug. 7, 1886, imported flour and wheat equal to 128,978,138 bushels of wheat, and the total imports for the crop year just closing will be approximately 132,000,000 bushels of wheat. Her requirements for the coming crop year, according to Beerholm, will be 24,000,000 bu. more than for the past year, or 156,000,000 bu. in all.

From continental reports we learn that the French crop is really poorer than heretofore reported, both in quantity and quality. The new wheat thus far is of only medium quality, lamp, and unsuitable for roller milling. Did wheat realize in some cases 3 francs more than the new, because of being dry and hard. The rye crop will be under average. The exports of wheat from Russia during the past season have been the smallest for many years. The present crop will be under average, and with depleted stocks, exports during the coming year will probably be quite moderate. St. Petersburg advises that the autumn rain during the first half of August has completely changed the

previous excellent harvest prospects, serious injury to grain being reported. A dispatch from Berlin says that the official estimate of the Prussian crops places the yield of wheat at 95 per cent of the average crop, rye at 87, barley 97, oats 101 and potatoes 98. Harvest operations in Holland have been retarded by unsettled weather, and the cereal crops have suffered to some extent.

The following statement gives the amount of wheat "in sight" at the dates named, in the United States, Canada, and on passage for Great Britain and the Continent of Europe:

	Bushels.	Value.
Visible supply	28,400,000	\$1,978,000
On passage for United Kingdom	15,978,000	1,096,000
On passage for Continent of Europe	4,096,000	284,000
Total bushels Aug. 14, 1888	48,474,000	\$3,358,000
Total bushels Aug. 14, 1887	55,768,000	\$3,978,000
Total bushels Aug. 14, 1886	55,978,100	\$3,978,000

The Liverpool market is quoted quiet with light demand. Winter wheat is quoted at 6s. 9d. 6s. 11d; spring at 6s. 6d. 6s. 11d. and 6s. 9d. No. 1 at 7s. 0d. to 7s. 1d. per cental.

**CORN AND OATS.**

**CORN.**

The receipts of corn in this market the past week were 18,305 bu., against 15,137 bu. the previous week, and 14,801 bu. for the corresponding week in 1885. The visible supply of corn in the country on Aug. 21 amounted to 10,931,916 bu. against 9,823,403 bu. the previous week, and 6,815,475 bu. at the same date last year. The visible supply shows an increase during the week indicated of 1,108,513 bu. The exports for Europe the past week were 186,309 bu., against 470,236 bu. the previous week, and for the past eight weeks 5,344,949 bu., against 5,938,928 bu. for the corresponding period in 1885. The stocks now held in this city amount to 11,250 bu. against 6,036 bu. last week and 20,037 bu. at the corresponding date in 1885. The market has declined fully 2c during the past week, and is not strong at the decline. No. 2 is selling here at 43c per bu., and No. 3 at 42c, with No. 2 yellow offered at 45c. The demand is light, and as the export demand has fallen off greatly, the market is likely to be weak for a time. But the latest returns from the corn belt do not promise even a low average crop, and corn ought to be good property at present prices. Certainly those farmers who have a stock of corn in this State should not think of parting with it, at present values. The Chicago market is also weak, with spot No. 2 at 40c @ 40 1/2c per bu., August delivery at 40c; September at 40 1/2c, and October at 42 1/2c. New York quotes corn weak and lower, with light demand and but little speculative dealings. No. 2 is quoted at 50c @ 51c, September delivery at 49c, and November at 51 1/2c per bu. The Liverpool market is quoted dull with poor demand. Quotations there are at 45 1/2c per bush for new mixed, 4s. 4 1/2d. for August 4s. 4 1/2d. for September, and 4s. 5d. for October delivery.

**OATS.**  
The visible supply of this grain on Aug. 21 was 3,116,977 bu., against 2,541,164 bu. the previous week, and 2,788,293 bu. August 21, 1885. The exports for Europe the past week were 42,536 bu., against 33,745 bu. the previous week, and for the last eight weeks were 441,943 bu. against 785,781 bu. for the corresponding weeks in 1885. The visible supply shows an increase of 375,913 bu. during the week. Stocks held in store here amount to 91,785 bu., against 68,998 bu. the previous week, and 45,943 bu. at the corresponding date in 1885. The receipts at this point for the week were 50,152 bu., against 66,127 bu. the previous week, and 45,578 bu. for the corresponding week last year. The shipments for the week were 18,313 bu., against 45,836 bu. the previous week, and 29,943 bu. for same week in 1885. Oats have declined 1 1/2c @ 1 3/4c per bush since our last report, and buyers are not anxious to take hold at the decline. Of course the sales reported are all of new oats, and a good deal of the receipts are hardly in good condition as yet. Quotations here are 35c @ 36c for No. 1 white, and 25c @ 30c for No. 3 mixed. For September delivery 27c @ 28c for No. 2 mixed. The Chicago market is dull and lower, with demand light active. Quotations there are 25c @ 25 1/2c for No. 2 mixed, 35c @ 36c for August, 25c @ 26c for September, and October 27c @ 28c. The New York market is also on the down grade, in sympathy with western points, but has become steadier. No. 2 mixed is quoted there at 31c @ 32c, No. 2 white at 34c @ 35c, and a white at 34c. Receipts have been large, and a quiet market is looked for by dealers until the demand improves.

**DAIRY PRODUCTS.**

**BUTTER.**

Butter keeps improving, at the west, but is rather weak in most of the eastern markets. It is certain however, that the oleomargarine tax law is going to have a very beneficial effect upon the trade, and when the winter gets cooler we look for values to improve under a better demand. It is safe to say not one-half of the "substitutes" now consumed will be required when they are sold under their true name, and butter will take their place. It means, even in our local market, an increased consumption of tons weekly. It cannot help, therefore, being beneficial. In this market choice dairy is in demand at 15c @ 16c, and ordinary 13c @ 14c. Creamery is in demand at 21c @ 22c, and in retail light supply. Low grade butter is neglected. No one wants it, and it is worth as much on the farm to grease wagons with as can be realized for it here, while its presence always helps to weaken the market. At Chicago the finest selections of creamery butter are firm and in good request at 21c @ 22c per lb. and scarce. All other grades are dull and stocks generally light. Good to choice fresh Iowa and similar makes can be bought for 16c @ 18c per lb. and medium grades at 18c @ 19c. Fancy dairy is in very light supply and sold readily at 15c @ 17c. Common and packing stock at 7c @ 9c. The New York market, though a shade higher than a week ago, is showing some weakness, and only fancy grades are quick of sale. The Daily Bulletin of Saturday says:

"It is essentially a nominal market, but with general indications in favor of buyers. Indeed, upon what may be considered the very best of stock, signs of weakness are not wanting, and anything bringing outside buyers to the aid of a small jobbing or retail sort of a war. Some operators con-

tinued to 'talk' very strong, and tell of the creamery butter that is in what is 'to come,' but what they tell now in the way of demand is extremely light on all outlets, and not much prospect for immediate improvement can be discovered. The close, muggy weather of the past two days has proven a further disadvantage to many of the fresh receipts. The reports from west of Buffalo continue to suggest a diminished production, and while this State has a good supply, it is said to be well held, with indications that city operators have already commenced picking up some of the best makes. On the export movement, reports are about as before, and there is nothing of special interest to suggest for the day."

Quotations in that market yesterday were as follows:

**EASTERN STOCK.**

	20 1/2	21 1/2	22 1/2	23 1/2	24 1/2	25 1/2	26 1/2	27 1/2	28 1/2	29 1/2	30 1/2	31 1/2	32 1/2	33 1/2	34 1/2	35 1/2	36 1/2	37 1/2	38 1/2	39 1/2	40 1/2	41 1/2	42 1/2	43 1/2	44 1/2	45 1/2	46 1/2	47 1/2	48 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2	51 1/2	52 1/2	53 1/2	54 1/2	55 1/2	56 1/2	57 1/2	58 1/2	59 1/2	60 1/2	61 1/2	62 1/2	63 1/2	64 1/2	65 1/2	66 1/2	67 1/2	68 1/2	69 1/2	70 1/2	71 1/2	72 1/2	73 1/2	74 1/2	75 1/2	76 1/2	77 1/2	78 1/2	79 1/2	80 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	84 1/2	85 1/2	86 1/2	87 1/2	88 1/2	89 1/2	90 1/2	91 1/2	92 1/2	93 1/2	94 1/2	95 1/2	96 1/2	97 1/2	98 1/2	99 1/2	100 1/2
Creamery, tubs and pails, fancy	20 1/2	21 1/2	22 1/2	23 1/2	24 1/2	25 1/2	26 1/2	27 1/2	28 1/2	29 1/2	30 1/2	31 1/2	32 1/2	33 1/2	34 1/2	35 1/2	36 1/2	37 1/2	38 1/2	39 1/2	40 1/2	41 1/2	42 1/2	43 1/2	44 1/2	45 1/2	46 1/2	47 1/2	48 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2	51 1/2	52 1/2	53 1/2	54 1/2	55 1/2	56 1/2	57 1/2	58 1/2	59 1/2	60 1/2	61 1/2	62 1/2	63 1/2	64 1/2	65 1/2	66 1/2	67 1/2	68 1/2	69 1/2	70 1/2	71 1/2	72 1/2	73 1/2	74 1/2	75 1/2	76 1/2	77 1/2	78 1/2	79 1/2	80 1/2	81 1/2	82 1/2	83 1/2	84 1/2	85 1/2	86 1/2	87 1/2	88 1/2	89 1/2	90 1/2	91 1/2	92 1/2	93 1/2	94 1/2	95 1/2	96 1/2	97 1/2	98 1/2	99 1/2	100 1/2

**WESTERN STOCK.**

	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
Western imitation creamery, choice	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

The exports of butter from American ports for the week ending August 21 were 394,376 lbs., against 341,585 lbs. the previous week, and 349,339 lbs. two weeks previous. The exports for the corresponding week in 1885 were 331,293 lbs. Quietude and the shipment of foreign wool in bond was the most conspicuous feature of the week passing in review. Two positive truths that in ordinary business would be regarded as a nullity and inconsistent with business foresight—Why is our wool so quiet? Now the wool market is not active that no one mill or house could get enough of goods to put into auction to make up a decent sale, for everything gotten up in good taste, in approved style, color and finish is in demand. Why are our foreign wool stores when it is well-known that we must draw supplies from abroad later on, and pay higher prices if our mills are to be kept running? 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This image shows a vertical strip, likely a page from a book or a scan of a document. The left side is a dark, textured area, possibly a binding or a shadow. The right side is a lighter, textured area, possibly a page of paper. A thin white line separates the two. There are some small, dark specks and marks on the lighter side, which could be dust or artifacts from the scanning process.



